Broadcasting Board of Governors

Office of Internet Freedom

The Office of Internet Freedom (OIF) within the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), oversees the efforts of BBG-funded Internet Freedom (IF) projects, including the work carried out by the Open Technology Fund (OTF), a BBG-nonprofit grantee and a division of Radio Free Asia. In coordination with OTF, OIF manages and supports the research, development, deployment, and use of BBG-funded IF technologies via third party contractors. Consistent with

the BBG's mission to inform, engage, and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy, OIF provides appropriate anti-censorship technologies and services to citizens and journalists living in repressive environments. OIF also supports global education and awareness of IF matters, enhancing users' ability to safely access and share digital news and information without fear of repressive censorship or surveillance.
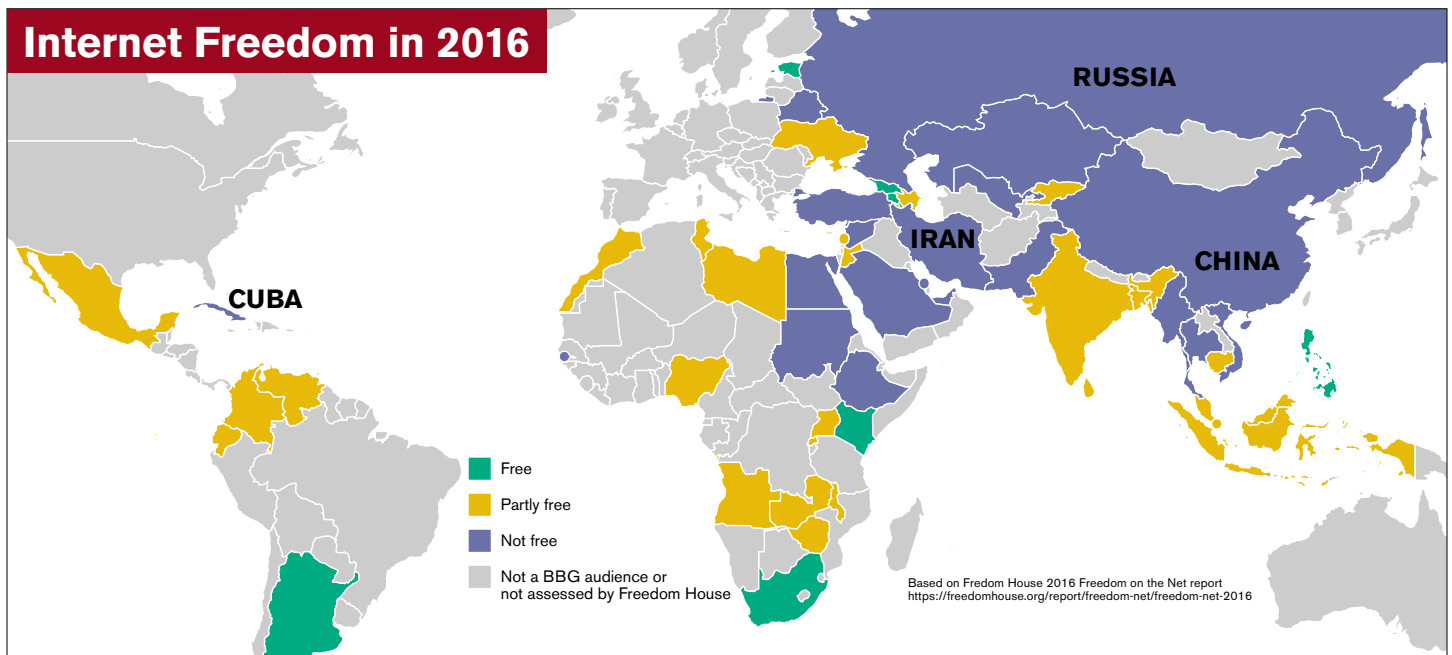
$15M
FY16 internet freedom budget

2016
OIF established
Absorbing the Internet Anti-Censorship Division, established in 2002

2012
OTF established

Internet Freedom in 2016

RUSSIA
IRAN
CHINA
CUBA

- Free
- Partly free
- Not free
- Not a BBG audience or not assessed by Freedom House

Based on Fredom House 2016 Freedom on the Net report
https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-net/freedom-net-2016

Current Projects

MOBILE

Psiphon – Mobile app version of Psiphon's anti-censorship virtual private network (VPN) software that enables unfettered Internet access to citizens of repressive governments, as well as application

program interface (API) access to allow integration of Psiphon's circumvention layer into apps deployed by BBG broadcasters.

Umbrella – An app providing comprehensive digital safety advice for people at risk.

K-9 Mail – K-9 is the most widely used encrypted email platform for Android, with between 5 and 10 million downloads and availability in more than 30 languages.

Signal – A cross-platform secure messaging application, which

also integrates its underlying security into the most widely used messaging platform on the planet.

Tor Browser Bundle – Free software that prevents repressive governments from learning a user's location or blocking specific internet content or services.

Bazaar – Supports a complete distribution ecosystem for internet freedom tools on Android devices that provides secure, streamlined tools for developers and organizations, while providing an easy "app store" experience with built-in circumvention.

DESKTOP

Psiphon – Open source web-based proxy and desktop client anti-censorship VPN software that enables unfettered Internet access to citizens of repressive governments with customized versions to promote BBG broadcast services.

Ultrasurf – Desktop client software that enables unfettered internet access to citizens of repressive governments.

Tor Browser Bundle – Free software that prevents repressive governments from learning a user's location or blocking specific internet content or services.

NoScript – A popular privacy and security enhancing browser extension for Mozilla Firefox and is pre-installed in the Tor Browser Bundle.

Satori – A browser extension providing tamper-resistant downloads of circumvention and security tools often blocked in repressive countries.

EVALUATION AND REPORTING

FreeWeChat – A platform to track and expose Chinese government censorship on popular chat application, WeChat.

Open Observatory for Network Interference – A robust tool allowing users to detect and report interference with internet content and communications.

Net Alert – A project to investigate and publicly report on targeted digital attacks against at-risk populations.

Red Team Lab – Provides independent technology audits to internet freedom projects to verify any security or privacy claims offered to the public.

Counterpower Lab – Incubates new forms of circumvention capable of overcoming the most sophisticated censorship environments fostering integration into widely adopted tools.

DATA AGGREGATION

Analytics Central – A BBG internal portal that aggregates information about censorship circumvention tool usage. Quick-access data will foster rapid

BBG Expansion and Collaboration

OIF collaborates with other federal government entities, including the U.S. State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), to combat censorship and surveillance activities by repressive regimes around the world. OIF is seeking to forge similar relationships with private and nonprofit sector entities.

responses to new censorship attempts by anti- internet freedom governments.

CLOUD SERVICES

Collateral Freedom – A resilient means of circumventing censorship, utilized by numerous BBG supported tools, through leveraging the platforms of cloud providers.

Eclipis.is – As part of the OTF Engineering Lab, internet freedom projects can request access to a secure cloud infrastructure in order to research, develop, and deploy their tools and services in secure and strategically located environments around the globe.